

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re application of:

Egbert *et al.*

Appl. No. *To Be Assigned*

Filed: January 17, 2002

For: **Methods of Increasing Hardness  
of Food Products**

Confirmation No.

Art Unit: *To Be Assigned*

Examiner: *To Be Assigned*

Atty. Docket: 1533.1510001/SRL/J-S

**Authorization To Treat A Reply As Incorporating An Extension Of  
Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3)**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

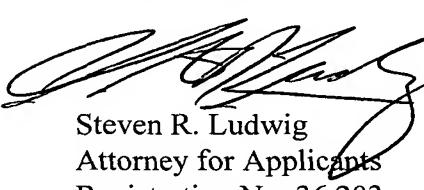
Sir:

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to treat any concurrent or future reply that requires a petition for an extension of time under this paragraph for its timely submission, as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge all required extension of time fees to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036, if such fees are not otherwise provided for in such reply. A duplicate copy of this authorization is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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